

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on January 12, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, claim 14 has been amended to correct an informality. Claims 5, 14, 19, 22 and 26 are the independent claims, and claims 5, 14, 16-22, and 24-27 remain pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

The Examiner's Action has rejected claims 5, 14, 16-22 and 24-27 as being obvious over *Glenn et al.* (USP 6,521,987) in view of *Ichikawa et al.* (USP 6,175,150). It is submitted that these claims are *prima facie* patentably distinguishable over the cited references for at least the following reasons.

Applicant's independent claim 5 recites that at least a part of the lead terminal portion has a cross-section, that is taken along a longitudinal direction of the lead terminal portion, that is in a shape of an inverted trapezoid. The other independent claims also recite a similar configuration. This claimed configuration prevents the lead terminal portion from being detached from the sealing resin in a downward direction. This claimed feature is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

As acknowledged by the Examiner's Action, *Glenn et al.* do not teach a lead terminal portion that has a cross-section, that is taken along a plane that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the lead terminal portion, in a shape of an inverted trapezoid. To overcome this admitted deficiency, the Action relies on

the teachings of *Ichikawa et al.* The Action states that the semiconductor device shown in Figure 4 of *Ichikawa et al.* has a lead frame 505, which has a lead terminal portion that has a cross-section, that is taken along a plane that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the lead terminal portion, in a shape of an inverted trapezoid.

However, it is respectfully submitted that this reference does not teach this configuration. As is clearly shown in Figure 3 of this reference, the sectional line IV-IV is parallel to the longitudinal direction of the terminals 505. Thus, the cross section of the terminals 505, as shown in Figure 4, is taken along a plane that is parallel to the longitudinal direction of the terminals 505, rather than perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of the terminals 505 as would be required by Applicant's independent claims. Thus, since this reference does not disclose or suggest a lead frame, which has a lead terminal portion that has a cross-section, that is taken along a plane that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of the lead terminal portion, in a shape of an inverted trapezoid, as recited by Applicant's independent claims, but instead discloses a lead frame, which has a lead terminal 505 that has a cross-section, that is taken along a plane that is parallel to a longitudinal direction of the lead terminal, in a shape of an inverted trapezoid, it is respectfully submitted that the Action has failed to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness against any of the independent claims. It is thus requested that these claims all be allowed and that these rejections be withdrawn.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and notify us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



April 26, 2005

Date

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RHB:vm



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 2818
Examiner: Dao H. Nguyen

In Re PATENT APPLICATION Of:

Applicant(s): Kazutaka SHIBATA

Serial No.: 10/676,050

Filed: October 2, 2003

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Atty. Dkt.: AI 269 D1

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)
) **PETITION FOR**
) **ONE-MONTH**
) **EXTENSION OF**
) **TIME**
)
)
) _____

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the period for replying to the Examiner's Action dated January 12, 2005, be extended for one month under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a).

The applicable extension fee of \$120.00 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a) is submitted herewith.

Should this remittance be accidentally missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002 and advise us accordingly. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

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April 27, 2005
Date

Respectfully submitted,

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